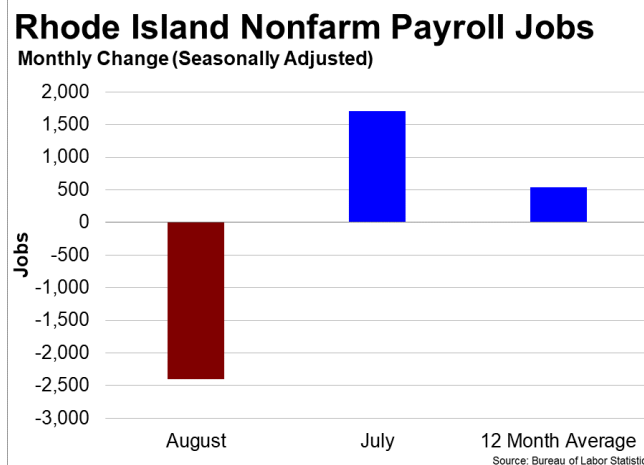
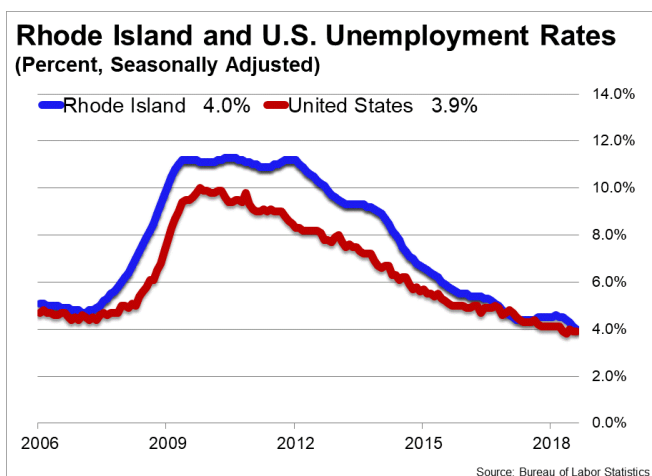




September 21, 2018

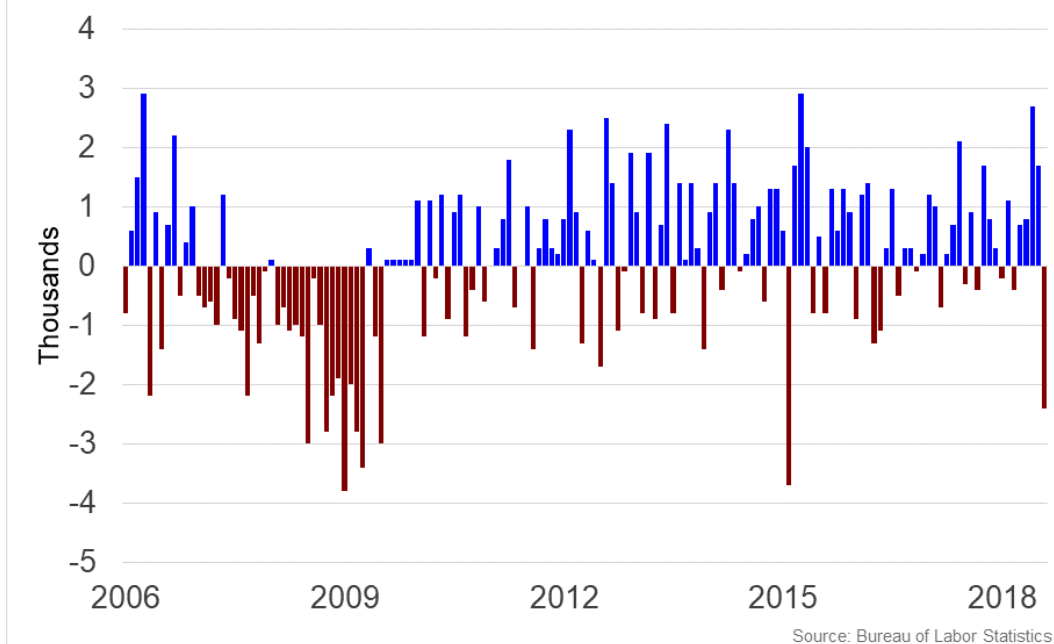
Summary

- **Rhode Island lost 2,400 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4 percent in August** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Rhode Island added 6,400 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point from 4.4 percent.
- **In August, Rhode Island's private sector lost 2,300 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 6,400 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Rhode Islanders fell by 766 in August**, and over the past year 8,948 Rhode Islanders found jobs.
- Rhode Island's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 64.9 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.5 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.9 percent in August**. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 19, 2018. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 5, 2018.



Rhode Island Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



Rhode Island Payroll Employment

Rhode Island lost 2,400 jobs, or 0.48 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Rhode Island added 1,700 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Rhode Island increased by 6,400, or 1.29 percent. Rhode Island nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

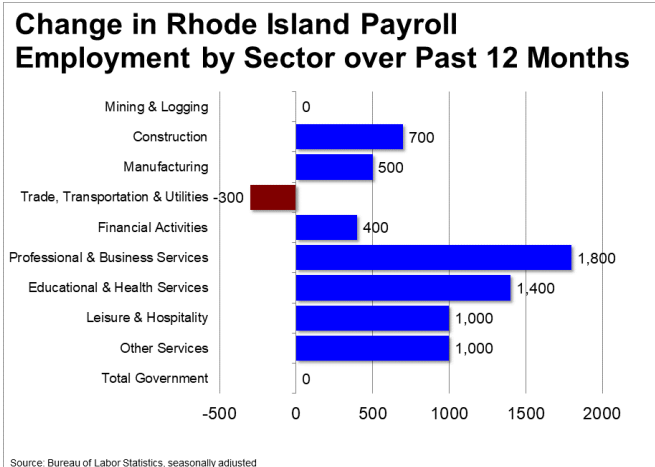
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 201,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,330,000 jobs, or 1.59 percent. Rhode Island ranks 22nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During August, Rhode Island's private-sector lost 2,300 jobs, or 0.52 percent. The private-sector in Rhode Island added 1,600 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Rhode Island increased by 6,400, or 1.47 percent. Rhode Island private-sector payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 204,000 jobs in August, or 0.16 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,329,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.87 percent. Rhode Island ranks 25th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Professional & Business Services (+600) and Financial Activities (+100). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Leisure & Hospitality (-1,300) and Educational & Health Services (-1,100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+1,800) and Educational & Health Services (+1,400). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-300), Mining & Logging (unchanged), and Total Government (unchanged).



Rhode Island Labor Force Statistics

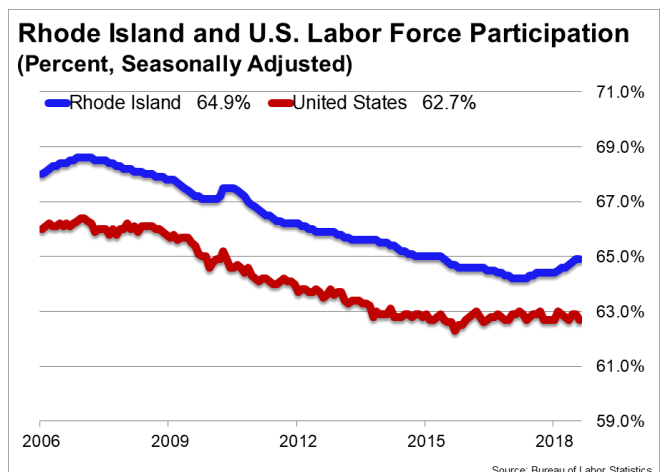
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Rhode Island was unchanged at 64.9 percent in August. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 18 have a higher labor force participation rate than Rhode Island. The labor force participation rate in Rhode Island is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Rhode Island was 67.9 percent in November 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Rhode Island occurred in March 2007 when the labor force participation rate hit 68.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 64.2 percent in May 2017. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in October 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 62.8 percent. The national labor force participation rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 62.7 percent in August 2018, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Rhode Island civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 62.3



percent in August from 62.2 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 17 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Rhode Island. The employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island is 0.8 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island was 62.3 percent in August 2018. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island occurred in March 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 66.0

percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 58.8 percent in January 2012. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in December 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 57.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.2 percentage point to 60.3 percent in August. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

